

Program Services Committee Meeting Minutes

March 2, 2007

11:00 am – 1:00 pm

- Briefly went over previous meeting, signed in
In attendance: Debra Hurd, Charlotte Rogers, Pamela Taylor, Letreana Braswell Jenkins, Rose Bates, Jim Dennis

Previous Meeting

- Goal is to find out ways to get children served, because worker turnover is bad- kids are getting put out at age 18 without education or services available to them
- This subcommittee reports to YAB ?

New Meeting

- Concentrate on fixing this problem service by service- ILP program first
- 15 ILP workers statewide, about 1100 children available for services but only approximately 600 currently receiving ILP services
- How do we address fixing this issue? Case workers training period needs to include more ILP information. Right now is the time to request this because Midsouth is revamping their training program.
- ILP needs to be automatic and mandatory
- Addressed some of the biggest problems:
 1. Communication
 2. Accountability- is the state being held accountable for youth being referred
 3. Training
 4. Fairness
- Discussed staff not following policy. How do we make workers read the policy? How do we make them follow policy?
- Policy for ILP laid out in detail in Sec. VIII and Pub 404
- Set up mandatory ILP training classes- Info must go from area managers down, and area managers must accept this is important training
- Teen Conference (ATTA) has been canceled to allow the funds to be spent on training for staff and other things for the youth. Decision was made without involving Jim or Varnaria - maybe from miscommunication.
- Jim looking into Camp War Eagle for annual teen conference.
- Discussed leveling the job status and creating an ILP coordinator job title. Most coordinators are SSA II, with 2 exceptions (Areas 3 and 6). Grades currently range from 13 to 17.
- Job needs to be standardized
- Jim discussed how job title for ILP coordinator was originally submitted. Management decided to merge this with the OPM study. OPM study was cancelled so nothing has gone forward for ILP Coordinator consideration.

- The state can use Chafee federal funding for the ILP positions, but must be a full-time coordinator. 75/25 match between federal and state funds. Grant only pays if they're 100% ILP.
- Jim is to copy committee members with letters written to Assistant Directors about ILP matters that needed to be addressed. These letters are going to be reviewed and information about progress and issues that need to be addressed will be taken to the Board. Letter to Pat was in response to Pat asking where do we stand on certain issues from Q's letter.
- There is a need to visit other states and get input from them and how their program is working. Daniel ILP Conference in September. Conference in Minneapolis in May.
- Next YAB meeting April 12, 2007 10:00 am
- DCFS Advisory Board May 11, 2001 11:00 am
- Pam going to email Connie to find out about next small meeting
- This committee's next meeting is April 27, 2007 11: am
- The next meeting will be to see what information to take to the advisory board.